GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3503
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2016
Film Piracy
Baker Shri George

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of cases of film piracy has been increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to stop/minimize this along with the number of persons being punished/ sentenced during the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether there is any estimate as to the amount of registered DVD organizations officially authorized to distribute DVD of films in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government is planning/proposing to increase the sentences/punishment being given in the film piracy cases; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be done?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING [COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)]

(a) and (b): Government is aware that there are instances of piracy of films. However, no definite data is available.

(c): The Copyright Act, 1957 as amended in 2012, provides civil remedies [Chapter XII (Section 54-62)] as well as criminal remedies [Chapter XIII (Section 63-70)] to the copyright holder and clause (c) of subsection (1) of Section 52 of the Copyright Act, 1957 read with Rule 75 of the Copyright Rules, 2013 are the provisions of the Act which deal effectively with piracy of films. For preventive measures, there exist Enforcement/ Intellectual Property Right Cells, Nodal Officer in States/Union Territories to deal with the enforcement matters.

(d): No definite data is available regarding the number of registered sellers/distributors of Digital Video Disc (DVD) of films in the country.

(e) and (f): The proposed amendments to the Cinematograph Act, 1952 envisage penal provisions against piracy, however, no time frame can be given in this regard.